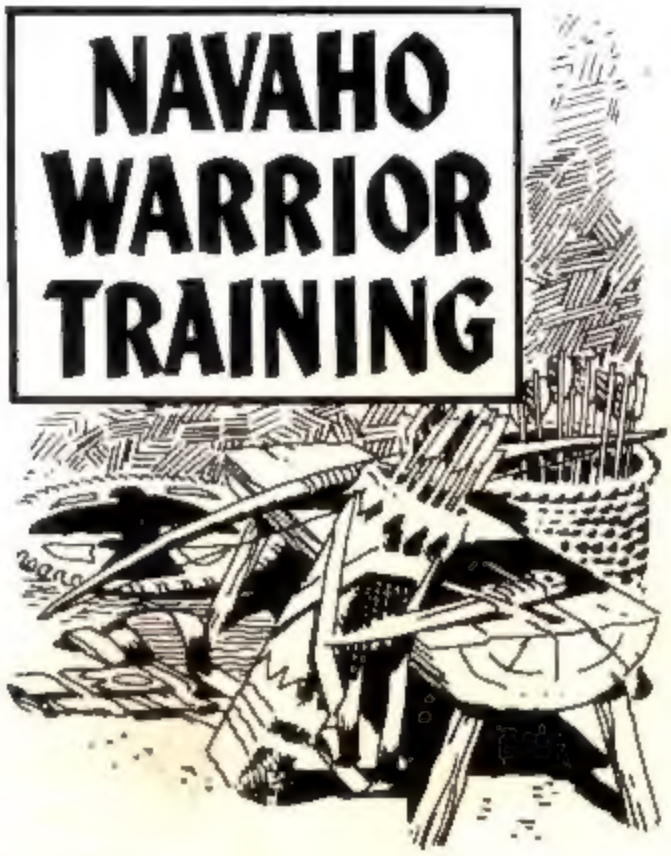
DELL
NO. 870
10¢
LITTLE BEAVER
He unveils the "Masquerade Raiders"!

NAVAHO WARRIOR TRAINING



Upon reaching the age of seven or eight, a Navaho boy began a period of strict training. He was taught the ways of the animals he would hunt as he grew older and how to protect himself against the uncertain elements of nature.

Physical training was important. The boys made morning runs over rough terrain, until they were able to make the runs during the hottest part of the day — high noon!

Each boy was trained in the use of the bow and arrow, learning to dodge the enemies' arrows and how to take advantage of any cover that the land happened to afford.

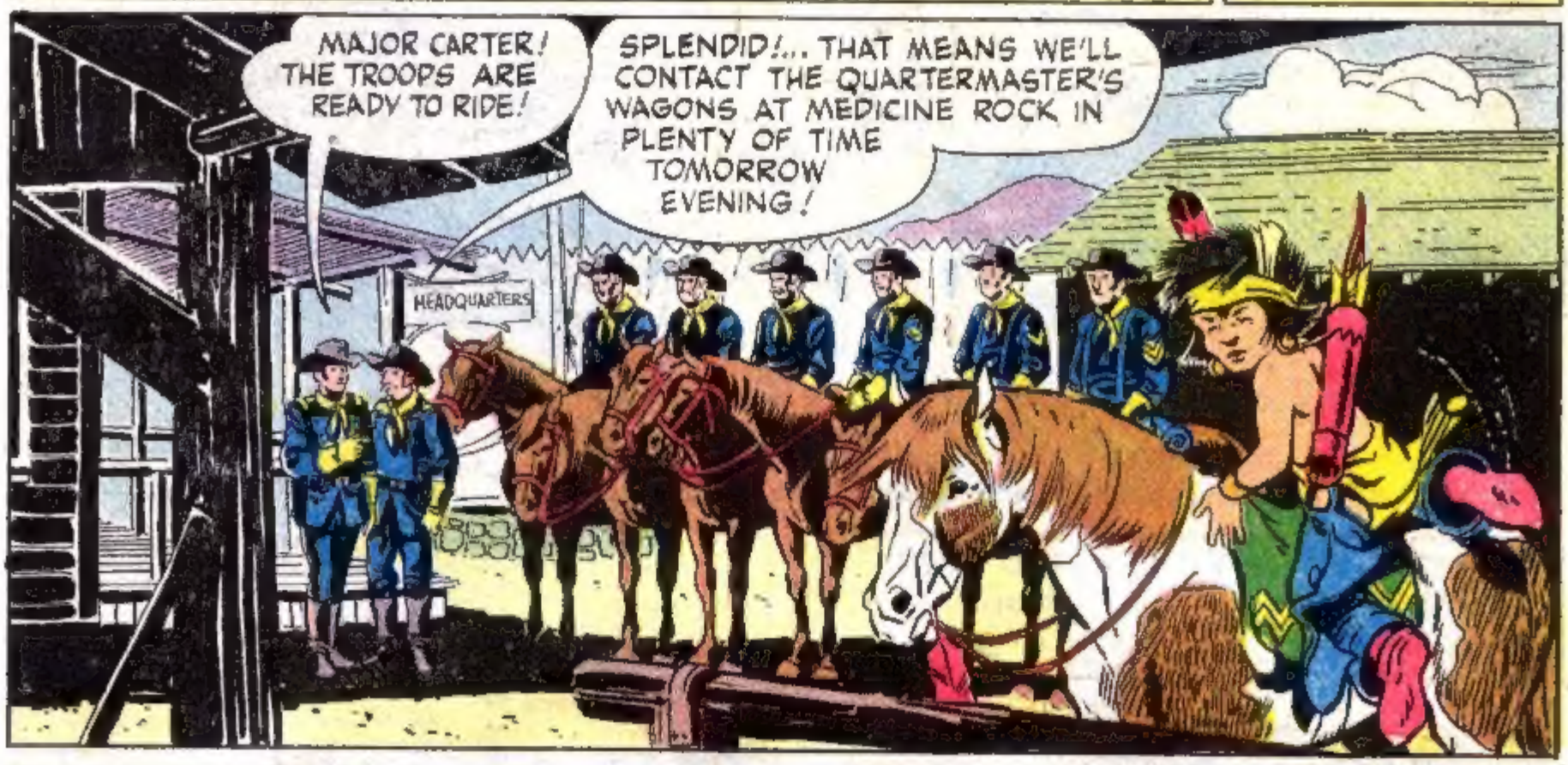
After a youth completed his warrior training, it was a great honor to be brought before the tribal council and given a new name, celebrating his state of manhood.

The urge to hunt alone caused some of the boys to break training rules. Scoldings of severe manner would follow, because obedience was a rigid part of their training.

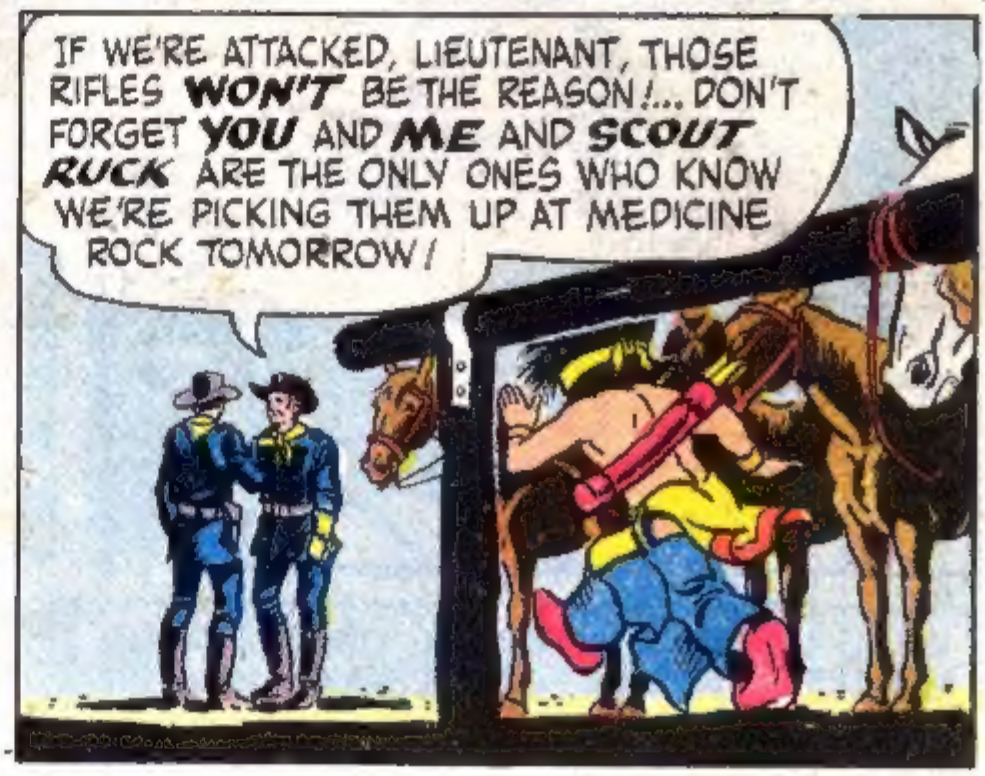
LITTLE BEAVER, No. 870. Published by Dell Publishing Co., Inc., 261 Fifth Ave., New York 16, N. Y.; George T. Delacorte, Jr., Publisher; Helen Meyer, President; Paul R. Lilly, Executive Vice-President; Harold Clark, Vice-Pres.-Advertising Director; Albert P. Delacorte, Treasurer. © 1957 by Red Ryder Enterprises, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A. Designed and produced by Western Printing & Lithographing Co., by arrangement with Red Ryder Enterprises, Inc.

Little BEAVER in THE MASQUERADE RAIDERS

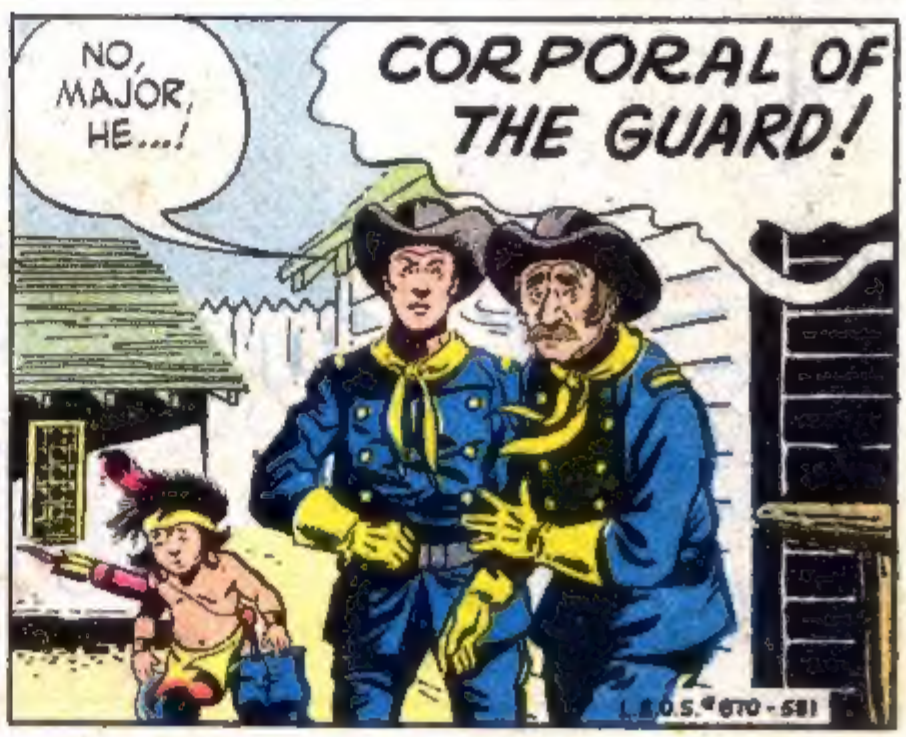
ONE MORNING, LITTLE BEAVER RIDES INTO FORT WHIPPLE TO DE-LIVER AN INVITATION TO MAJOR CARTER...


MAJOR CARTER! THE TROOPS ARE READY TO RIDE!
SPLENDID!... THAT MEANS WE'LL CONTACT THE QUARTERMASTER'S WAGONS AT MEDICINE ROCK IN PLENTY OF TIME TOMORROW EVENING!
HEADQUARTERS

PROVIDING BIG SCAR AND HIS RENEGADE APACHES DON'T TRY TO STOP US!
YOU DON'T THINK BIG SCAR WILL TRY TO TAKE THE NEW RIFLES WE'RE GOING AFTER?


IF WE'RE ATTACKED, LIEUTENANT, THOSE RIFLES WON'T BE THE REASON!... DON'T FORGET YOU AND ME AND SCOUT RUCK ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO KNOW WE'RE PICKING THEM UP AT MEDICINE ROCK TOMORROW!

WELL, I'M CERTAIN YOU AND I HAVE KEPT THE SECRET! I CAN'T SPEAK FOR SCOUT RUCK, THOUGH!
THAT REMINDS ME! HAS RUCK REPORTED BACK FROM FORT HAMILTON YET?



SCOUT RUCK AND TROOPER WATERS RIDING UP FAST!. LOOKS LIKE *TROUBLE!*

RUCK! WHAT HAPPENED TO WATERS?

NAVAHOS SHOT HIM, MAJOR! THEY JUMPED US AT LITTLE FORK!

DID THEY GET THE HORSES YOU WERE BRINGING FROM FORT HAMILTON?

YES, WE HAD TO CUT THEM LOOSE TO GET AWAY!

I...I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS OF THE NAVAHOS, BUT I'LL DETAIL A COMPANY TO BRING THEM IN IMMEDIATELY!

I SUGGEST WE WAIT TILL YOU BRING THOSE NEW RIFLES BACK! WE MIGHT NEED EVERY BIT OF FIRE-POWER WE CAN GET!

THAT'S A GOOD IDEA! WE'LL GO AFTER THEM AS SOON AS I GET BACK FROM MEDICINE ROCK!

MAJOR! SCOUT MAKE-UM MISTAKE! NAVAHOS *NOT* TAKE-UM ARMY HORSES! NAVAHOS GET-UM READY FOR *RAIN DANCE*.... NOT OUT STEAL-UM HORSES!

LOOK, KID! DON'T TELL *ME* I DON'T KNOW NAVAHOS WHEN I SEE 'EM!

LET-UM GO!

I'D KEEP THIS KID UNDER GUARD, MAJOR! IF HE WARNS CHIEF WHITE CLOUD OF OUR PLANS, WE'LL NEVER SEE THOSE HORSES AGAIN!

I HATE TO DO IT, LITTLE BEAVER, BUT I'M AFRAID WE'LL HAVE TO KEEP YOU HERE A WHILE!

...SERGEANT!

AWAH! NAVAHOS BE IN HEAP TROUBLE! ME GOT TO GET-UM LOOSE!

THIS MAKE SCOUT LET-UM LITTLE BEAVER GO!

OWWWW!... MY TOE!

AS LITTLE BEAVER RACES OFF...

RUCK! PUT DOWN THAT RIFLE!

YOU LITTLE DEVIL! YOU'LL PAY FOR THAT!

OOF! BLAM!

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU RUCK? SHOOTING LITTLE BEAVER WOULD *REALLY* BRING TROUBLE!

SHUCKS, MAJOR! I WAS ONLY GOING TO SHOOT OVER HIS HEAD! THOUGHT IT'D STOP HIM!

BETTER LET ME TRAIL HIM, SIR! WE OUGHT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS AFTER WHITE CLOUD KNOWS OUR PLANS!

I AGREE! BUT CHANGE HORSES FIRST! YOURS LOOKS PLAYED OUT!

AT THAT MOMENT...

GET-UM TO LITTLE FORK PLENTY FAST, PAPOOSE! WE TRAIL-UM BAD INJUNS! FIND OUT WHO THEY BE! PROVE-UM SCOUT RUCK BE WRONG!

LATER, AT LITTLE FORK...

THIS LOOK BAD! TRACKS OF HORSE THIEVES MADE BY *NAVAHO* MOCCASINS! BUT TRACKS NOT LEAD TOWARD NAVA-HO VILLAGE!

GET-UM UP, PAPOOSE! ME *STILL* NOT THINK NAVAHOS JUMP-UM SOLDIERS!... WE MAKE-UM SURE!

LATER...

TRACKS LEAD-UM TO CAMP-FIRE OVER HILL! ME CRAWL THERE, PAPOOSE!... NOT WANT-UM TO HEAR US!

SOON...

AIEE! THAT BE RENEGADE APACHE CHIEF, BIG SCAR! THIS HEAP STRANGE! APACHES WEAR-UM NAVAHO CLOTHES!

PAPOOSE! WE RIDE LIKE WIND! LIEUTENANT SAY SOLDIERS GO TO MEDICINE ROCK! WE CATCH UP WITH THEM!

AS LITTLE BEAVER STARTS AWAY...

SCOUT RUCK!... HIM FOLLOW US, PAPOOSE! ME WARN HIM BIG SCAR IS OVER HILL!

WHAT'S THE RUSH, KID?

BIG SCAR MAKE-UM CAMP OVER HILL! HIM STEAL-UM HORSES!... NOT NAVAHOS!

MAJOR ON WAY TO MEDICINE ROCK WITH SOLDIERS! COME! WE TELL HIM ABOUT BAD APACHES!

HAI!

OH, NO, WE WON'T!

...YOU BE-UM *LOCO?* YOU RIDE-UM *TOWARD* BIG SCAR'S CAMP!

INJUN, YOU'RE JUST TOO BLAMED SMART!

MINUTES LATER...

RUCK! WHY YOU BRING NAVAHO BOY HERE?

HE WAS SPYING ON YOU, CHIEF! I CAUGHT HIM RIDING BACK TO TELL THE MAJOR YOU STOLE THOSE HORSES!

ME NOT UNDERSTAND! APACHES WANT TO MAKE-UM SOLDIERS THINK *NAVAHOS* STEAL-UM HORSES! *WHY?*

TO MAKE SOLDIERS AND NAVAHOS FIGHT! THEN SOLDIERS NOT HAVE TIME TO CHASE BIG SCAR!

BY-UM-BY SOLDIERS FOLLOW HORSE TRACKS! THEY CATCH-UM YOU HEAP FAST!

THEY WILL CATCH NO ONE!... THE TRACKS THEY FOLLOW WILL LEAD THEM INTO DEATH CANYON!

MANY WARRIORS WILL BE WAITING FOR THEM THERE! MY BRAVES WILL GET THE NEW RIFLES THE SOLDIERS WILL BE CARRYING! THE *NAVAHOS* WILL GET THE BLAME FOR THE MASSACRE!

YOU BE SURE SOLDIERS WILL HAVE NEW RIFLES WITH THEM?

THEY'LL HAVE THEM!... I MADE POSITIVE OF THAT!

BUT SOMEBODY'S GOING TO HAVE TO TELL YOU HOW TO USE THEM!... THAT'LL COST PLENTY!

HERE IS GOLD! YOU TELL NOW!

EVERYTHING'S DRAWN OUT ON THIS PAPER!-- --NOW, WHAT ABOUT THE REST OF MY GOLD!

YOU NOT GET IT TILL ***AFTER*** YOU LEAD SOLDIERS INTO TRAP AT ***DEATH CANYON!***

THAT'LL BE IN ABOUT TWO DAYS!... JUST BE SURE YOU AND YOUR RENEGADES USE ONLY ***NAVAHO*** ARROWS ON THOSE SOLDIERS!

MY CHIEF! WE MUST HURRY! THERE ARE MANY NAVAHO ARROWS TO MAKE WHILE WE WAIT-UM FOR OTHER WARRIORS!

YOU BE RIGHT, GREAT TOOTH! TIE NAVAHO BOY! WE RIDE TO DEATH CANYON!

LATER...

LOOK, PAPOOSE! WHEN SOLDIERS RIDE IN CANYON TO GET STOLEN HORSES, OUR BRAVES WILL SHOOT NAVAHO ARROWS UPON THEM FROM STEEP WALLS ABOVE!... ALL DIE!

YOU BE LOCO!.. SOLDIERS TAKE-UM ALL OF YOU TO FORT!

COME, WE MAKE CAMP IN CANYON!

MAKE FIRE, RED DOG, WHILE WE FIND FLINT FOR ARROW HEADS!

YES, MY CHIEF!

AS THE SUN SINKS...

LOOK, NAVAHO! ARROWS BE JUST LIKE YOUR TRIBE MAKES!

UGH! ME FEEL-UM BETTER WHEN NIGHT COME! MAYBE ME GET-UM LOOSE THEN!

THAT NIGHT AS THE RENEGADE APACHES SLEEP...

THIS BE-UM GUS-DUSTING!.. ME **NEVER** WEAR-UM RAWHIDE IN TWO BY RUB-UM ON ROCK!

AI! ME BE LOCO! THERE BE-UM SHARP FLINT WHERE THEY MAKE-UM ARROWHEADS!

ME GET-UM!

SHORTLY...

FLINT CUT-UM RAWHIDE FAST!.. NOW ME GO!

OH-OH! ME BETTER THINK-UM!... IF ME TELL-UM MAJOR ABOUT APACHE PLAN, SCOUT RUCK TELL-UM LITTLE BEAVER LIE! --- NOBODY BELIEVE-UM ME!

AYAH! ME GOT IDEA! IF IT WORK, ME PROVE-UM LITTLE BEAVER NOT LIE!

NEXT MORNING...

BIG SCAR! LOOK! NAVAHO BOY GET LOOSE! STEAL-UM HORSES!

PAPOOSE FOOL US!

HIM RUIN TRAP FOR SOLDIERS!.. WE GOOD RUNNERS! WE TRY TO CATCH HIM!

PLAN START TO WORK! BUT THEY BE GOOD RUNNERS! GET-UM UP, PAPOOSE, OR THEY CATCH-UM US!

MILES FROM DEATH CANYON...

WE...WE (PUFF! PUFF!) N... NEVER CATCH-UM, BIG SCAR! ME GIVE-UM-UP!

YOU TALK LIKE SQUAW!

AT THAT MOMENT...

THEY STOP!--- NOW ME LET-UM SLOWEST HORSE GO! IF THEY FOLLOW THEY STILL NOT BE ABLE TO CATCH-UM LITTLE BEAVER!

LOOK! BOY LOSE-UM HORSE!

GOOD! WE GET IT! I WILL RIDE AFTER BOY AND CATCH HIM!

UGH! YOU NEVER CATCH-UM BOY ON THIS HORSE! HE TOO TIRED TO CARRY RIDER WITH SPEED!

,T BE GOOD ENOJGH FOR RED DOG TO RIDE! COME! WE KEEP RUNNING AFTER BOY!

LATER...

NAVAHO BOY WISE! HIM (PUFF! PUFF!) KEEP CHANGING HORSES! THEM NOT TIRE! BOY HAS WON!

PUFF! PUFF! N... NOW ME G... GIVE-UM OUT!

LOOK! HIM LOSE-UM 'NOTHER HORSE!

GET IT! GREAT TOOTH WILL RIDE!

MILES FLY BY, AND...

PUFF! PUFF! R... RED DOG! YOU LET ME RIDE NOW! ME PLENTY TIRED!

HO! BOY LOSE-UM ONE MORE HORSE!... ME GET-UM FOR YOU, BIG SCAR !

STILL LATER, THE PURSUERS HAVE NOT CAUGHT UP WITH LITTLE BEAVER...

THAT BE SIX HORSES HIM LOSE! TIE THIS ONE TO TREE LIKE OTHERS! WE GET THEM AFTER WE CATCH BOY!

ME NOT LIKE-UM THIS, BIG SCAR!

EVERY TIME WE STOP OR GET-UM CLOSE, BOY LOSE-UM A HORSE! ALWAYS BE SLOWEST HORSE SO WE NOT ABLE TO CATCH-UM BOY!

MAYBE HIM LEAD *US* INTO TRAP!

YOU WRONG! WE NOT GO TOWARD NAVAHO VILLAGE OR FORT!... HIM JUST PAPOOSE! NOT KNOW HOW TO LEAD HORSES!

STILL LATER...

AH! LOOK! HIM LOSE-UM 'NOTHER HORSE! NOW HIM GOT-UM ONLY *ONE!*

NOW WE CATCH HIM / BOY THROUGH MAKING FOOLS OF APACHE WARRIORS!

MOVE-UM, PAPOOSE! IF BIG SCAR CATCH-UM US, WE WISH WE BE-UM IN MAJOR'S LOCK-UM-UP AT FORT!

AT THAT INSTANT, PAPOOSE'S PLUNGING HOOF HITS AN UNSEEN GOPHER HOLE...

AIE-E-E-E-E-E!

NOW! HIM BE FINISHED!

AWAH! LITTLE BEAVER BE IN HEAP BIG MESS OF TROUBLE!

TAAA! TRAAA!

WH... WHAT BE THAT?

BIG SCAR!--- SOLDIERS COME!

TAAA!

TRAA! TAH!

FLEE!

TAH!

TAAA! TAH TAH!

LITTLE BEAVER!--- WHY WERE YOUR PEOPLE CHASING YOU?

THEY NOT NAVAHOS! BE-UM BIG SCAR AND HIS APACHES... *THEY* STEAL-UM ARMY HORSES!

SERGEANT! --- AFTER THEM!.

SOMETHING'S GONE SOUR! I'D BETTER CLEAR OUT!

MAJOR! NO LET-UM SCOUT RUCK GET AWAY! HIM WORK-UM WITH BIG SCAR!

LIEUTENANT! BRING HIM BACK!

SOON...

HERE HE IS, MAJOR!

WHAT'S EATIN' THESE TROOPERS, MAJOR?... I OUGHT TO BE SCOUTING THE COUNTRY FOR MORE REDSKINS!

WHAT'S THIS LITTLE BEAVER TELLS ME ABOUT YOU AND BIG SCAR PLANNING TO *AMBUSH* MY MEN AT *DEATH CANYON!*

TH...THAT'S A *BLASTED LIE*, MAJOR!

HOW ABOUT IT, LITTLE BEAVER? CAN YOU PROVE IT ISN'T?

MAYBE ME *CAN!*

HERE BE-UM PAPER SCOUT RUCK GIVE BIG SCAR! HIM SAY IT TELL ABOUT NEW RIFLES!

WELL, WELL! LET'S SEE THAT, LITTLE BEAVER!

THIS CLINCHES IT, RUCK! BESIDES MYSELF, ONLY **YOU** AND THE LIEUTENANT KNEW THESE FACTS ABOUT THE RIFLES!... YOU'RE UNDER **ARREST!**

AFTER LITTLE BEAVER EXPLAINS...

THANKS, LITTLE BEAVER, I OWE CHIEF WHITE CLOUD AND YOUR PEOPLE AN APOLOGY!

NOBODY WANT-UM APOLOGY! CHIEF JUST WANT-UM YOU TO COME TO RAIN DANCE TWO SLEEPS FROM NOW!

TELL YOUR CHIEF I'LL BE HAPPY TO BE THERE!

SURE LUCKY HE HAPPENED TO CROSS OUR TRAIL, MAJOR!

HAPPENED?... LIEUTENANT, LITTLE BEAVER ***KNEW*** WE WERE HEADING FOR MEDICINE ROCK, AND THAT WE PLANNED TO ARRIVE THERE THIS EVENING! IT WAS NO ACCIDENT THAT HE SHOWED UP HERE TODAY!

LITTLE BEAVER

FELINE FOLLY

WHOA, PAPOOSE! SOUND-UM LIKE SHOTS COME FROM ARMY FORT! MAYBE TROUBLE! WE GO-UM SEE!

BLAM! BLAM! BAM!

FRED HARMAN

HOA! LITTLE BEAVER WRONG! *FIELD MOUSE* BE-UM ONLY ONE IN TROUBLE!

BLAM!

IT'S NO USE, O'BRIEN! WE'LL NEVER GET RID OF THOSE PESTS THAT WAY! WE NEED A CAT!

I KNOW, SIR! BUT CATS ARE VERY RARE IN THE WEST! IN FACT, I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY AT ALL OUT HERE!

THERE'S AN INDIAN BOY! MAYBE HE KNOWS WHERE WE COULD FIND A CAT!

PERHAPS!... OH, LITTLE BOY! COME HERE A MINUTE!

WE NEED A CAT AROUND HERE, BOY! HAVE YOU SEEN ANY IN THIS SECTION?

ME 'FRAID NOT!

WELL, IF YOU RUN ACROSS ANY, WE'D BE MIGHTY GLAD TO HAVE ONE! CAN'T SPARE ANY OF MY MEN TO GO LOOK... MIGHT BE AN APACHE ATTACK!

ME BE GO-UM TO TOWN! ME LOOK-UM AROUND!

LATER, AS LITTLE BEAVER RIDES INTO RIMROCK...

THAT BE-UM HEAP STRANGE WAGON! ME WONDER WHAT IT BE?

COME ON, FOLKS! THEY'RE GOING FAST! FIFTY DOLLARS APIECE! GUARANTEED TO GET RID OF YOUR MICE!

THAT'S A STEEP PRICE, BUT IT'S WORTH IT! I'LL TAKE ONE, MISTER!

HAVEN'T SEEN A CAT IN TWO YEARS! I'LL TAKE ONE!

GIVE ME A COUPLE!

AWAH! THAT BE LOT OF MONEY FOR-UM PUSSYCAT!

LOOK OUT! THE BOX!

KLUNK!

AIEE! LOOK-UM AT THAT!

MR-R-R-OW!

MINUTES LATER...

HERE BE-UM SOME THAT GET AWAY, MISTER!

OH, THANK YOU, LITTLE BOY! THANK YOU! FOR THIS, I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU ONE FOR YOUR VERY OWN!

BUT, HEADING BACK TOWARD THE FORT. .

HEY! WAIT-UM UP, KITTY! WE NOT THERE YET!

OH-OH! ME SURE TO LOSE-UM HIM IN WOODS!

THERE HIM BE! AND HIM STOP-UM RUNNING! MAYBE ME CAN SNEAK UP ON HIM!

NOW ME GOT-UM...! UGH!

HA! APACHE WAR PARTY! LOOK-UM LIKE CAPTAIN OF FORT THINK-UM RIGHT!

HEAR ME, WARRIORS! WE ATTACK FORT NOW! CATCH WHITE SOLDIERS BY SURPRISE!

WHAT BE-UM THIS STRANGE ANIMAL? ME NEVER SEE-UM BEFORE!

YI-I-I! IT HAVE-UM SHARP CLAWS!

MR-R-R-OW-R-R!

SP-P-P-P-T!

UGH! IT BE DEVIL CREATURE!

OR MAYBE EVIL SPIRIT!

H-M-M! APACHES BE HEAP SCARED! MAYBE THIS BE CHANCE TO BREAK-UM UP WAR PARTY!

RUNNING ALONG BEHIND THE BANK, LITTLE BEAVER LOOSES ARROWS FROM DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS...

YI-I-I! NAVAHO ARROWS! THEY SURROUND US!

WE WILL NOT ATTACK *THIS* FORT! THEY HAVE EVIL SPIRITS AND NAVAHOS FOR FRIENDS!

MINUTES LATER...

WELL, APACHES BE GONE... AND THERE GO-UM KITTY! RIGHT TOWARD FORT!

LOOK! THE INDIAN BOY, SIR! HE DID IT! HE BROUGHT US A CAT!

FINE! BUT THAT'S THE LEAST OF OUR WORRIES RIGHT NOW!

HURRY UP AND HELP GET THAT ENCLOSURE COMPLETED, O'BRIEN! WE CAN EXPECT AN APACHE ATTACK AT ANY TIME!

WAIT! APACHES BE-UM GONE! ME SEE THEM LEAVE!

WHAT? APACHES GONE? AND I SUPPOSE YOU DROVE THEM OFF ALL BY YOURSELF, HUH?

NO! KITTY-CAT HELP-UM LITTLE BEAVER DO IT!

ALL RIGHT, LITTLE BOY! THIS IS NO TIME FOR JOKES! RUN ALONG HOME BEFORE TROUBLE BREAKS OUT!

OH, WELL! MAKE-UM TRACKS FOR RESERVATION, PAPOOSE! ONLY FIGHT IN FORT BE-UM BETWEEN CAT AND MICE! AND THAT NOT BE VERY EXCITING!

LITTLE BEAVER

BETTER LATE THEN NEVER

ONE DAY, IN THE RIMROCK GENERAL STORE...

GOT TO BE SURE ME FIND BEST KERCHIEF TO GIVE SHERIFF NEWT FOR BIRTHDAY PRESENT !- HERE BE-UM NICE ONE !

ME BUY THIS KERCHIEF, MR. MULLINS ! HERE BE DOLLAR !

I'M SORRY, LITTLE BEAVER, BUT A DOLLAR ISN'T ENOUGH ! THAT KERCHIEF COSTS A DOLLAR AND SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS !

BUT LITTLE TAG SAY IT COST A DOLLAR !

PART OF THE TAGS BEEN TORN OFF ! YOU LOOK AT THE OTHER KERCHIEFS AND YOU'LL SEE THAT THEIR TAGS ALL SAY $1.25 !

$1.

SUDDENLY...

BAM ! BLAM ! BLAM !

APPLES 5¢

SOMEBODY SHOOT-UM UP TOWN! ME FIND OUT WHY!

AND AS LITTLE BEAVER RUSHES OUT INTO THE STREET-

BANK OF

BAM!

HE MEETS THE SOURCE OF THE TROUBLE ---

OOF!

AIEEEE!

WHAM!

WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOIN', PETE --- WE'LL NEVER GET TO THE BORDER THIS WAY!

I COULDN'T HELP IT! THE DUMB KID GOT IN MY WAY!

OOOH! THAT MAN SURE KNOCK LITTLE BEAVER DOWN PLENTY HARD! FEEL LIKE ME BE HIT BY BUFFALO!

STOP THOSE MEN! THEY'RE GETTING AWAY!

BANK OF

WHAT'S GOING ON ?

IT'S THOSE TWO, NEWT ! JUST ROBBED THE BANK ! MUST'VE TAKEN ABOUT FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS !

PUT THAT RAZOR DOWN, FRANK, AND GET ON YOUR HORSE ! WE'RE GOING AFTER THOSE ROBBERS !

I'M WITH YOU, NEWT ! -- YOU WANT ME TO ROUND UP SOME OF THE OTHER BOYS ?

NO ! WE DON'T HAVE TIME ! THOSE MEN HAVE ENOUGH OF A HEAD-START AS IT IS !

ME HEAR ROBBERS SAY THEY HEAD FOR BORDER ! AND ME KNOW SHORT CUT SO SHERIFF NEWT CAN CATCH-UM REAL EASY ! -- ME GO TELL-UM !

SHERIFF NEWT ! WAIT ! ME GOT SOMETHING TO TELL YOU !

EXCUSE-UM, PLEASE -- LET LITTLE BEAVER THROUGH !

BUT NEWT HAS NOT HEARD LITTLE BEAVER, AND---

TOO LATE ! GUESS ONLY THING TO DO IS TAKE-UM SHORT CUT AND TRY-UM STOP BADMEN MYSELF !

---THERE BE RANCH RIGHT ON TRAIL TO BORDER ! ME STOP-UM THERE AND GET HELP !

HAI-YAH, PAPOOSE !

GALLOPING THROUGH THE MAZE OF CANYONS HE KNOWS SO WELL, LITTLE BEAVER RACES ON...

YOU GOOD PONY, PAPOOSE ! WE ALMOST THERE NOW !

SEE ? THERE BE RANCH NOW-- AND THERE BE TRAIL TO BORDER!-- WE GO GET SOME HELP-- CATCH-UM ROBBERS FOR SHERIFF NEWT !

A FEW MINUTES LATER, LITTLE BEAVER POUNDS ON THE RANCH DOOR...

KNOCK! KNOCK

HALLOOO ! ANYBODY HERE ?

WE OUT OF LUCK, PAPOOSE ! NOBODY HOME !

LATER, ON THE TRAIL TO THE BORDER...

AND THERE BE BADMEN NOW ! AIEEE ! WHAT WE DO ?

OHH ! WE NOT SO UNLUCKY, AFTER ALL, PAPOOSE ! ME THINK ME SEE ANSWER TO PROBLEM !

SHORTLY...

WE MADE GOOD TIME, PETE ! LOOK THERE – THE BORDER'S ONLY A MILE AWAY !

YEAH ! THEY'LL NEVER CATCH US NOW !

BORDER 1 MILE

THEY WILL IF WE SIT HERE TALKIN' ABOUT IT ! LETS GO -- WE'LL MAKE CAMP AS SOON AS WE GET OVER THE BORDER !

OKAY, SLADE ! -- BOY -- I'M SURE LOOKIN' FORWARD TO SPENDIN' THAT FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS !

MINUTES LATER, AFTER THE ROBBERS HAVE RIDDEN ON---

SHERIFF NEWT ! SHERIFF NEWT ! **STOP** !

LITTLE BEAVER -- WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE ?

ME TAKE SHORT CUT ! AND ME SEE BANK ROBBERS GO BY HERE ONLY A FEW MINUTES AGO ! WE FIND-UM PLENTY QUICK ! THEY NOT BE FAR FROM HERE ! YOU FOLLOW -- YOU SEE !

WELL, WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? COME ON!

SHORTLY...

WHOA! WE BE AWFUL CLOSE NOW!

BADMEN MAKE CAMP IN BRUSH. BETCH-UM! WE SNEAK UP REAL QUIET, AND CATCH-UM!

YOU'RE NOT SNEAKING ANYWHERE, LITTLE BEAVER! I'M NOT TAKING ANY CHANCES ON YOUR GETTING HURT!

BUT AS NEWT AND FRANK MOVE STEALTHILY INTO THE BRUSH...

ME NOT STAY HERE! ME FOLLOW-UM REAL QUIET! MAYBE NEWT NEED HELP!

AND IN THE BRUSH...

OKAY, YOU TWO! HANDS UP--AND FAST!

HEY! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

THE IDEA IS THAT YOU JUST STOLE FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE RIMROCK BANK! WE WANT THAT MONEY-- AND YOU!

YOU'RE OUT OF LUCK, SHERIFF! WE'RE OVER THE BORDER NOW-- YOU DON'T HAVE AUTHORITY HERE!

YOU BE-UM WRONG, MISTER! YOU **NOT** BE OVER BORDER!

LITTLE BEAVER! I TOLD YOU TO STAY AWAY!

ME SORRY, SHERIFF NEWT! BUT ME TELL TRUTH! BORDER STILL MANY MILES AWAY!

I **KNOW** YOU'RE TELLING THE TRUTH, LITTLE BEAVER!

WELL, I DON'T! THIS IS SOME SORT OF TRICK-- YOU HAVEN'T GOT ANY RIGHT---

I THINK LITTLE BEAVER CAN PROVE THAT I **DO**! NOW GET ON YOUR HORSES, BOTH OF YOU!

SOON---

SEE ? ME PUT WHITE CLAY ON SIGN AWILE AGO ! SIGN **REALLY** SAY **BORDER - 17 MILES !** ME CET IDEA FROM MAN IN GENERAL STORE !

HUH !?

BORDER 17 MILES

LITTLE BEAVER FIGURED THAT WAS A GOOD WAY OF GETTING YOU TO LET YOUR GUARD DOWN ! ONCE YOU FIGURED YOU WERE OVER THE BORDER, YOU'D FEEL SAFE !

OKAY, OKAY ! STOP TALKIN— I GET THE IDEA !

ME NOT GO WITH YOU TO TAKE BADMEN TO JAIL, SHERIFF NEWT ! THERE BE SPRING BACK ON TRAIL A LITTLE WAY ! ME GIVE PAPOOSE DRINK !

OKAY, LITTLE BEAVER ! I'LL SEE YOU LATER— AND THANKS A LOT !

BUT AS NEWT RIDES AWAY WITH HIS CAPTIVES--

THESE ROPES DON'T FEEL VERY TIGHT ! I BET I CAN GET OUT OF THEM !

SLOWLY AND PAINFULLY, SLADE WORKS AT HIS BONDS.

UNTIL, FINALLY, HE FREES ONE HAND---

THEN, SUDDENLY, HE LUNGES AT FRANK---

HEY!

COME ON, HORSE! THIS TIME WE'RE MAKIN' THAT BORDER!

HEY, YOU!

BLAM!
BAM!
BAM!

AND BACK ON THE TRAIL...

ME HEAR-UM GUNFIRE !

BETTER CLIMB UP TREE AND SEE WHAT GO ON !

UH-OH ! ME SEE, ALL RIGHT ! ONE OF ROBBERS GET AWAY !

ME GOT-TO STOP-UM--AND ME THINK ME KNOW HOW !

QUICKLY AND SILENTLY, LITTLE BEAVER DROPS TO THE LOWEST BRANCH---

THAT SHERIFF'S NOT FAR BEHIND ME ! BUT HIS HORSE IS JUST AS TIRED AS MINE. SO I'VE STILL GOT A CHANCE !

SUDDENLY, LITTLE BEAVER DROPS, SPOOKING THE HORSE !..

HEEEEE-YAHHHHH !

WHEEEE !

YOU BETTER STAND UP NOW ! ME HEAR SHERIFF NEWT COMING ! HE BE PLENTY MAD WITH YOU !.

GOOD GOING, LITTLE BEAVER ! THIS CRITTER'S SURE GOT HIS HEART SET ON NOT GOING TO JAIL !

ME THINK HE NOT HAVE MUCH CHOICE NOW !

SOME TIME LATER---

LOOK ! NEWT CAUGHT THE BANK ROBBERS !

NOW, WAIT A MINUTE ! I WOULDN'T HAVE CAUGHT THESE MEN AT ALL, IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR LITTLE BEAVER !

WELL, LITTLE BEAVER SURE DOESN'T LOOK VERY HAPPY ABOUT IT !

WHAT'S WRONG, LITTLE BEAVER ? YOU LOOK SADDER'N A SPANIEL PUP !

ME FEEL BAD, SHERIFF NEWT ! 'CAUSE OF ALL THE EXCITEMENT, ME NEVER GET YOU BIRTHDAY PRESENT !

DON'T BE FOOLISH ! WHY, TWO BANK ROBBERS, ALL TIED UP REAL PRETTY-- OUGHT TO BE GOOD ENOUGH PRESENT FOR **ANY** SHERIFF !

A PLEDGE DELL COMIC TO PARENTS

The Dell Trademark is, and always has been, a positive guarantee that the comic magazine bearing it contains only clean and wholesome entertainment. The Dell code eliminates entirely, rather than regulates, objectionable material. That's why when your child buys a Dell Comic you can be sure it contains only good fun. "DELL COMICS ARE GOOD COMICS" *is our only credo and constant goal.*

DOG TOWN

Little Beaver often spends his spare time watching an unusual town—a prairie-dog town. This colony is made up of hundreds of little mounds, under which are burrows that are occupied by families of grass-eating prairie dogs.

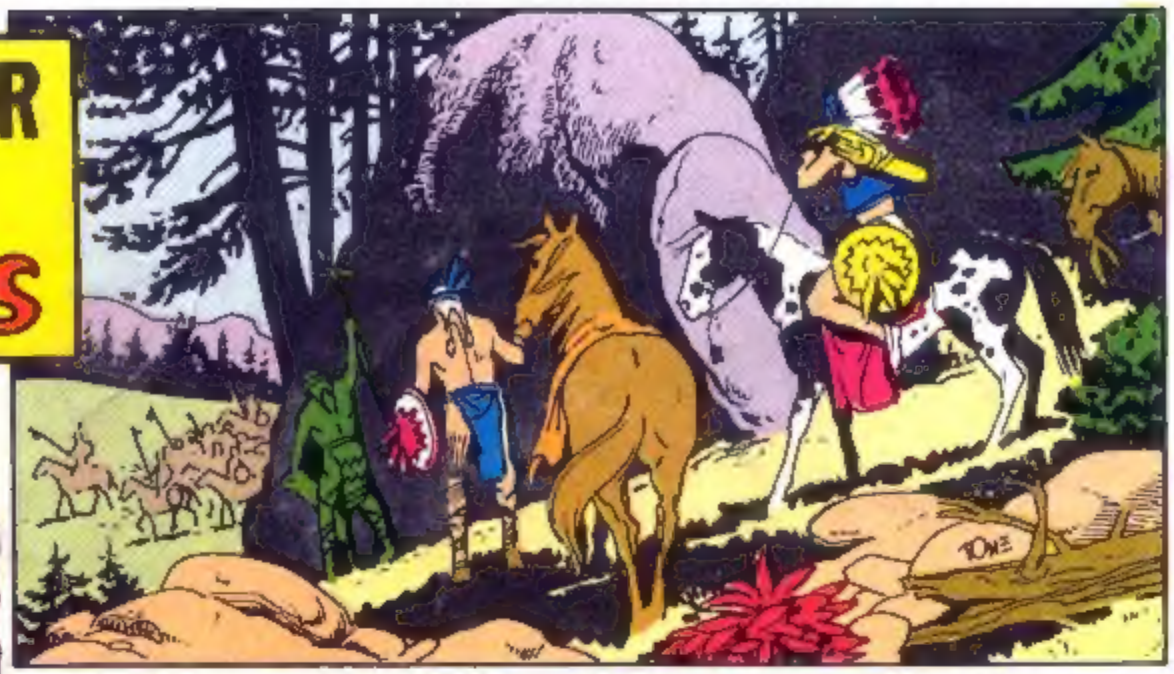
The low mounds of dirt and sand that mark the burrows resemble miniature volcanoes, while beneath the ground there is a maze of passageways and escape tunnels.

Closely related to ground squirrels, these animals are as playful as pups when young. Their name comes from their yapping call which sounds much like a small dog's bark.

At the approach of an enemy, the prairie falcon, bobcat, badger, or hawk, the prairie dog sounds his warning signal and disappears into the safety of his dugout.

Though he is small, the prairie dog will put up a fight; and experience has taught the coyote to keep his tender nose away from the sharp teeth of this little fellow.

VOLUNTEER WAR PARTIES



With many enemies among the Crows, Utes, and Pawnees, the Sioux sent out war parties constantly. But volunteers for battle were never lacking, for the Sioux squaws' fierce pride in their warriors' exploits inspired the men to war.

When a Sioux war party returned from a successful raid, days of singing, dancing, and feasting followed — especially if the party brought back many captured ponies!

The female relatives of the returning warriors paraded in the village, singing of the bravery of their loved ones — often inciting jealousy among the other squaws!

These squaws and relatives encouraged any warriors who had not been on the raid to go out and return with the same honors — so that they might share in the limelight.

This encouragement kept the ranks of the many war parties full, for all the warriors were anxious to go raiding and acquire greater honors than the previous party.